GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2424
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
LOSS IN VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has unearthed the criminal negligence of engineers at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) which cost a whopping loss of over Rs.100 crore to the Government;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with modus operandi adopted;

(c) the details of persons involved;

(d) the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such types of incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a)to(e): The matter of premature breakdown of coke oven batteries of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was referred to CBI in April, 2001. CBI registered a preliminary enquiry, which is at initial stage. The relevant documents are being collected by CBI for scrutiny.It is not possible for CBI to comment on the persons involved at this stage. The officers involved will have to be identified for examination to arrive at a conclusion regarding the negligence or otherwise of the engineers of the Steel Plant and who were responsible for the breakdown of coke oven batteries over a period of time.

The Government will take further appropriate action after completion of the enquiry.